

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 129004

11

ORIGIN DLOS-03

INFO OCT-01 SAL-01 EUR-08 L-01 ISO-00 OES-02 EB-03 INR-05

/024 R

DRAFTED BY D/LOS:AGJAMES

APPROVED BY S/AL:TVLEARSON

EUR/NE:JLCOLBERT

EUR/SOV:SWWORRELL

L/OES:BOXMAN

----- 077945

P R 252329Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 129004

STADIS//////////

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS:GROUP OF FIVE MEETING

REF: STATE

FOR AMBASSADOR ARMSTRONG FROM AMBASSADOR LEARSON

1. THE REFERENCED TELEGRAM INFORMED YOUR EMBASSY OF A
BRITISH INVITATION TO HOLD A GROUP OF FIVE MEETING IN
LONDON JUNE 21-24 (US, UK, FRANCE, JAPAN, USSR).

2. I CONSIDER THIS MEETING TO BE OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORT-
ANCE IN ADVANCING UNITED STATES' INTERESTS IN THE LAW OF
THE SEA NEGOTIATIONS. THE GROUP OF FIVE WAS FORMED ABOUT
1973. IT IS AN INFORMAL BODY, WHICH DOES NOT PUBLICLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 129004

ACT AS A GROUP OR ACKNOWLEDGES ITS EXISTENCE BUT WHICH UNTIL

THE LAST NEGOTIATING SESSION PERFORMED WELL AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN FURTHERING LAW OF THE SEA OBJECTIVES WHICH THE FIVE HAVE IN COMMON AS INDUSTRIALIZED, MARITIME NATIONS. BEFORE AND DURING THE LAST NEGOTIATING SESSION IN NEW YORK, HOWEVER, THE GROUP OF FIVE LOST SOMETHING IN EFFECTIVENESS FOR SEVERAL REASONS, IN PARTICULAR BECAUSE OF INTERNAL DIFFERENCE OVER SOME KEY ISSUES. THESE ARE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AND THE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT PROBLEM OF THE QUOTA SYSTEM FAVORED BY THE SSR AND FRANCE WHICH WOULD LIMIT THE ACCESS OF ANY INDIVIDUAL STATE (US) BY SOME ARBITRARY FORMULA SO AS TO PREVENT IT FROM QUOTE DOMINATING END QUOTE OR QUOTE MONOPOLIZING END QUOTE DEEP SEABED MINING. BECAUSE OF THESE PROBLEMS, UNLIKE PREVIOUS NEGOTIATING SESSIONS, THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIAL EFFORT WITHIN THE GROUP OF FIVE TO COORDINATE TACTICS IN REGARD TO THE NEGOTIATIONS ON DEEP SEABEDS. ATTEMPTS AT COORDINATION ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WERE NOT PRODUCTIVE. FURTHER, THE SOVIET UNION WAS AT NO TIME PARTICULARLY COOPERATIVE IN NEW YORK. AS A RESULT, THE GROUP OF FIVE FAILED TO PLAY MUCH OF A USEFUL ROLE ON SUBJECTS WHERE THERE WERE DIFFERENCES ALTHOUGH IT REMAINED A USEFUL MECHANISM ON OTHER SUBJECTS, PARTICULARLY NAVIGATION ISSUES.

3. AS YOU KNOW, THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE RESUMES IN NEW YORK ON AUGUST 2. THIS WILL BE A CRUCIAL SESSION AT WHICH THE US HOPES SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT ON ALL MAJOR OUTSTANDING ISSUES WILL BE ACHIEVED. EFFECTIVE COOPERATION AMONG THE FIVE CAN MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THE AUGUST-SEPTEMBER SESSION. FOR THIS REASON WE HOPE THAT THE LONDON MEETING WILL GIVE NEW IMPETUS TO THE FIVE AND INSTILL A WILL TO FURTHER SERIOUS COOPERATIVE EFFORT, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE US WILL BE THE TARGET OF THE PROBLEM ON DEEP SEABED MINING AND PERHAPS THE STRONGEST OPPONENT OF CONCESSIONS ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT WE GO OUT OF OUR WAY TO STRESS OUR POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE FIVE AS A GROUP.

4. I WOULD WELCOME YOUR PERSONAL SUPPORT FOR OUR EFFORTS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 129004

TO MAKE THE GROUP OF FIVE MEETING A SUCCESS. YOUR PRESENCE, FOR EXAMPLE, AT OUR OPENING MEETING PROBABLY ON JUNE 21 WOULD ASSIST US ENORMOUSLY, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOVIET VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS KOZYREV WILL ATTEND. IF IT WERE NOT AN IMPOSITION, I WONDER WHETHER YOU WOULD CONSIDER OFFERING A SMALL PRIVATE RECEPTION FOR THE PARTICIPANTS FROM THE FIVE COUNTRIES, ON AN EVENING CONVENIENT TO YOU. I AM SURE

THAT SUCH A GESTURE WOULD MEAN A GREAT DEAL TO OUR COUNTER-PARTS IN THE GROUP OF FIVE, AND WOULD HELP CREATE THE KIND OF ATMOSPHERE WHICH IS CONDUCIVE TO RE-ESTABLISHING A SENSE OF COHESION IN THE GROUP.

5. WITH KIND REGARDS AND MY APPRECIATION FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE. SISCO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MARITIME MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE129004
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AGJAMES
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760204-0041
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760514/aaaaamku.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS, LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS, LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS:GROUP OF FIVE MEETING
TAGS: PLOS, US, UK, FR, JA, UR, GROUP OF FIVE
To: LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006